

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, said data processing apparatus comprising:

a storage unit that stores therein a connection limitation table including connection limitation information in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are correlated associated with each other;

a reception unit that receives a request transmitted from an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed;

a port number notifying unit that notifies the external apparatus of a port number corresponding to a of a dynamically allocated port for the kind of data process included in the request received by said reception unit;

a registration unit that correlates associates discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request and the port number which was notified by said port number notifying unit with each other, forms connection limitation information, and registers the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage unit;

a data receiving unit that receives data addressed to the allocated port number, from the an external apparatus; and

a control unit that discriminates whether or not the connection limitation information in which the port number corresponding to the allocated port of the data received by said data receiving unit and the discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the data received by said data receiving unit are correlated associated with each other has been registered in the connection limitation table by said registration unit,

wherein said control unit controls to execute a process corresponding to the allocated port based on the data received by said data receiving unit in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and controls not to execute the process corresponding to the allocated port based on the data received by said data receiving unit in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table, even though the data processing apparatus has been permitted to communicate with the external apparatus which transmitted the data received by said data receiving unit.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said data processing apparatus is a printer.

11. to 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A communicating method performed in a data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, said method comprising:

a storage step of storing, in the data processing apparatus, a connection limitation table including connection limitation information in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are ~~correlated~~ associated with each other;

a reception step of receiving a request transmitted from an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed;

a port number notifying step of notifying the external apparatus of a port number corresponding to of a dynamically allocated port for a kind of data process included in the request received by said reception step;

a registration step of ~~correlating~~ associating discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request and the port number which was notified by said port number notifying step with each other, forming connection limitation information, and registering the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage step;

a data receiving step of receiving data addressed to the allocated port number, from the an external apparatus; and

a control step of discriminating whether or not the connection limitation information in which the port number corresponding to the allocated port of the data received by said data receiving step and the discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the data received by said data receiving step are correlated associated with each other has been registered on the connection limitation table by said registration step,

wherein said control ste controls controlling to execute a process corresponding to the allocated port based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and controlling controls not to execute the process corresponding to the allocated port based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table, even though the data processing apparatus has been permitted to communicate with the external apparatus which transmitted the data received by said data receiving step.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein said data processing apparatus is a printer.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium on which is stored a computer executable control program executed by a data processing apparatus which communicates with a computer via a network, wherein said control program causes a processor of the data processing apparatus to execute:

a storage step to store, in the data processing apparatus, a connection limitation table including connection limitation information in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are correlated associated with each other;

a reception step to receive a request transmitted from an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed;

a port number notifying step to notify the external apparatus of a port number corresponding to of a dynamically allocated port for a kind of data process included in the request received by said reception step;

a registration step to correlate associate discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request and the port number which was notified by said port number notifying step with each other, to form connection limitation information, and to register the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage step;

a data receiving step to receive data addressed to the allocated port number, from the an external apparatus; and

a control step to discriminate whether or not the connection limitation information in which the port number corresponding to the allocated port of the data received by said data receiving step and the discrimination information of the external

apparatus which transmitted the data received by said data receiving step are correlated associated with each other has been registered in the connection limitation table by said registration step,

wherein the control step controls to control to execute a process corresponding to the allocated port based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and to controls not to execute the process corresponding to the allocated port based on the data received by said data receiving step in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table, even though the data processing apparatus has been permitted to communicate with the external apparatus which transmitted the data received by said data receiving step.

23. to 37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a discriminating unit that discriminates whether or not to permit communication with the external apparatus,

wherein said port number notifying unit notifies the external apparatus of the port number in a case where said discriminating unit discriminates to permit the communication with the external apparatus.

39. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the discrimination information of the external apparatus is an IP address of the external apparatus.

40. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said port number notifying unit notifies the external apparatus of a first port number if the kind of data process is a printing process for processing print data, and of a second port number if the kind of data process is a managing process for managing the data processing apparatus.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, further comprising a discriminating step of discriminating whether or not to permit communication with the external apparatus,

wherein said port number notifying step notifies the external apparatus of the port number in a case where said discriminating step discriminates to permit the communication with the external apparatus.

42. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein the discrimination information of the external apparatus is an IP address of the external apparatus.

43. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein said port number notifying step notifies the external apparatus of a first port number if the kind of data process is a printing process for processing print data, and of a second port number if the kind of data process is a managing process for managing the data processing apparatus.

44. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 22, further comprising a discriminating step of discriminating whether or not to permit communication with the external apparatus,  
wherein said port number notifying step notifies the external apparatus of the port number in a case where said discriminating step discriminates to permit the communication with the external apparatus.

45. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 22, wherein the discrimination information of the external apparatus is an IP address of the external apparatus.

46. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 22, wherein said port number notifying step notifies the external apparatus of a first port number if the kind of data process is a printing process for processing print data, and of a second port number if the kind of data process is a managing process for managing the data processing apparatus.